

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08
AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 OES-06 FEA-01 OMB-01 /091 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:JDAVIDOW;DH
APPROVED BY AF - AMB. SCHAUFELLE
AF -WEDMONDSON
AF/S:DKEOGH
NEA/IRN:MGREENE

-----240150Z 066598 /20

O 240120Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065348

FOR CHARGE MIKLOS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, SA, RH

SUBJECT: IRANIAN INTEREST RE: RHODESIA

REF: TEHRAN 2493; B) TEHRAN 2494 (NOTALS)

1. BRITISH HAVE INFORMED US THAT FONMIN KHALATBARY MADE
SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME PITCH CONCERNING RHODESIA (REFTEL
A) TO THEIR AMBASSADOR IN TEHRAN, THOUGH, IN RESPONSE TO
LATTER'S QUESTIONING, FONMIN REPORTEDLY RECOGNIZED THAT
ALL NATIONALIST LEADERS, NOT JUST MUZOREWA, WOULD HAVE
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TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SETTLEMENT PROCESS.

2. DEPT ENCOURAGED BY IRAN'S INTEREST IN RHODESIAN
DEVELOPMENTS, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF OUR REQUEST THAT
IRAN PARTICIPATE IN AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF ECONOMIC
ASSISTANCE (THE ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND) ONCE RHODESIA
ATTAINS MAJORITY RULE AND INDEPENDENCE.

3. AT YOUR MEETING WITH GENERAL BROWN AND THE SHAH YOU MIGHT WISH TO DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS CONCERNING RHODESIA:

-- WE WELCOME THE INDICATION THAT IRAN SHARES WITH US

AND THE WEST THE DESIRE FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM, AND HOPE THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO CONSULT ON THIS MATTER.

-- WE ARE AWARE OF IAN SMITH'S SUGGESTION THAT THERE BE A REFERENDUM IN RHODESIA TO SELECT A BLACK LEADER WHO WOULD THEN BE ABLE TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH HIM. WE ARE ALSO AWARE THAT OFFICIALS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT SEE POSITIVE ELEMENTS IN THIS APPROACH.

-- WE ARE INTERESTED IN EXPLORING AVENUES WHICH WILL LEAD TO A SETTLEMENT. HOWEVER A SETTLEMENT IN OUR JUDGMENT MUST PROVIDE FOR A, RAPID TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE AND INDEPENDENCE, AND AN END TO THE VIOLENCE IN RHODESIA. IN OUR BELIEF THIS CAN ONLY OCCUR IF ALL OF THE NATIONALIST LEADERS ARE INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. ANY PROCESS WHICH LEAVES OUT LEADING NATIONALIST GROUPS WILL NOT LEAD TO AN END TO THE WAR.

-- WE MAINTAIN OUR ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE SEARCH FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, AND LOOK FORWARD TO UK FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN'S TRIP TO SOUTHERN AFRICA AS AN IMPORTANT CONFIDENTIAL

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ELEMENT IN THIS PROCESS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, BRIEFING MATERIALS, SELFDETERMINATION, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE065348
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JDAVIDOW;DH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770100-0558
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770325/aaaaavvd.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 64a761b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TEHRAN 2493, 77 TEHRAN 2494
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3006600
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRANIAN INTEREST RE: RHODESIA
TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, SA, RH, IR
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/64a761b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009